RRND
Reigate & Redhill North Downs Motorcycle Club

Once again this time in Kent we face another TRO - details below:
Template letter below, closing date 1st Feb- so please ACT NOW!
Thanks to all your efforts last time we have managed to stave off the closing of 2 important roads in Surrey, we can do the same now!
Thank you, yours, with best wishes. Brian Cohen

Another TRO... in Kent, these are fantastic lanes. Please object, it should only take a few moments. We have stopped all of the recent proposed TROs and that is down to your objections (and its looking promising on Cradle Lane - TBC). So please take a few moments, it is easy, **deadline is 1st February**.

The proposal

Kent County Council and Medway Council want to place an Experimental TRO on a network of byways at Holly Hill (west of Upper Halling, Kent). The land surrounding these byways has suffered from a certain amount of illegal use for a considerable number of years. The biggest problem by far is illegal access by 4x4 drivers; this access is causing considerable damage to the surrounding SSSI. Then there is the problem with fly tipping and the dumping and burning out of stolen cars.

The proposal is to introduce a 'permit scheme' experimental TRO for a period of 18 months. The terms of the TRO are unacceptable as they would allow access on **only two days per month** on dates decided by the Council that have not been published and for a maximum of 16 bikes per day. They would also limit access to between 09.00 and 16.00. Access for responsible and legal trail bikers, who have not contributed to the problems, will be extremely curtailed.

How to object – the quick guide

The network of lanes cover two authorities you need to send an objection to two separate addresses. Cut and paste the text and send an email to the following addresses or you can rewrite into your own words. Make sure you receive confirmation your objection is received.

prow@kent.gov.uk

prow@medway.gov.uk.

[**insert your address** – this is important]

Ref: CAS/GDR/12/BWG5&6

Dear Sir or Madam

I object to the proposed Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders on Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATs) MR45A, Snodland and NS245 & NS221 Luddesdown; and Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT) RS221 & Chapel Lane (part) Halling.

My concern is about the detail of the permit system. To restrict motorcycles to only TWO days per month between the hours of 09:00 and 16:00 is unreasonable. The choice of days you make may not be acceptable to me for family reasons or because of my employment.

I can understand the reasons for having to have temporary TRO's on these roads because of the damage that has been caused by four wheeled vehicles trespassing and damaging the adjacent land and SSSI. As far as I'm aware, motorcyclists on road legal trail motorcycles have not caused this damage. We are again being penalised for a crime we are not committing.

I would like to see a permit system identical to those used successfully on the BOATs in Bredhurst and Lenham.

I would be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of my objection.

Yours sincerely

[your name]

If you want to send by post the addresses are:

1. Kent County Council for Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATs) MR45A, Snodland and NS245 & NS221 Luddesdown

Graham Rusling

Kent County Council

Invicta House

Maidstone

Kent

ME14 1XX

2. Medway Council for Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT) RS221 & Chapel Lane (part) Halling

Medway Council

Regeneration, Community and Culture

Civic Headquarters

Gun Wharf

Dock Road

Chatham

Kent

ME4 4TR

TRF Forum thread:

http://www.trf.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=98&t=5867&start=0&sid=75a22ce934e2c3f8d4709fe517acb46d

Map of where the lanes are:

http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?x=567520&y=164645&z=120&sv=567520,164645&st=4&ar=y&mapp=map.srf&searchp=ids.srf&dn=832&ax=567520&ay=164645&lm=0

Bredhurst / Lenham permit scheme:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders/bredhurst_and_lenham.aspx

Other possible objections / questions / ideas for letters - put these into your own words:

- The permit conditions are too restrictive and unfairly penalise legal and responsible trail bikers.
- The problems are primarily due to 4x4 misuse of the byway. Responsible and legal trail bikers should not be restricted as a result.
- Why such restrictive hours (9am to 4pm)? What is the rationale for these hours, and why should I be prevented from using the byway on a summer evening?
- Why have the dates not been published? How can I know whether the dates KCC choose will be convenient for me? What if I am working or have family commitments on the dates you choose?
- What happens if I have a puncture, breakdown or I need to make some other repair and cannot leave the lane (or get locked in?)
- What if I experience an accident or medical emergency on the route and am again locked in, or help locked out?
- Why 16 motorcycles maximum? What if individuals who are anti-motor vehicles, block book permits, and do not use them, in order to prevent legitimate applicants obtaining permits?

- Kent County Council will fail in its duties to to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) (Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984) and to assert and protect the rights of the public to the use and enjoyment of any highway (Section 130 of the Highways Act 1980).
- I do not believe sufficient attention has been given to motorcycles, in isolation to other classes of vehicle, in deciding to proceed with making these TROs.

Solutions

- Introduce a permit scheme for motorcycles similar to the successful scheme at Bredhurst and Lenham, i.e. without restrictions on days or times.
- A narrow gate with combination lock for motorcyclists could be provided, which would still restrict rogue drivers of larger 4x4 vehicles. A separate locked gate could be provided to continue to permit controlled access for responsible drivers of 4x4s.

Please object by 1st February - we've found recently that other Councils really have taken notice of a large number of objections.